



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Hiatt et al.

Serial No.: 10/705,250

Filed: November 10, 2003

For: HANDLING SYSTEM FOR USE
WITH PROGRAMMABLE MATERIAL
CONSOLIDATION SYSTEM AND
ASSOCIATED METHODS

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Attorney Docket No.: 2269-5558A US

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence along with any attachments referred to or identified as being attached or enclosed is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail on the date of deposit shown below with sufficient postage and in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

April 23, 2004
Date

Signature

Deidra J. Pfeil
Name (Type/Print)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced patent application on the merits, entry of the amendments as set forth herein is respectfully solicited.

Amendments to the Specification appear on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings appear on page 10 of this paper and include both attached replacement sheets and annotated sheets showing changes.

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Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 12 of this paper.